



Docket No.: 60931(47762)
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Hajime Nakamura et al.

Application No.: 10/789,537

Confirmation No.: 9442

Filed: February 26, 2004

Art Unit: 2613

For: WAVELENGTH PATH SWITCHING NODE
APPARATUS AND WAVELENGTH PATH
ALLOCATION METHOD

Examiner: H. A. Woldekidan

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir/Madam:

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

In response to the Office Action dated April 2, 2009, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the prior art rejection discussed below.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 16, 17 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,819,870 to Ge et al. (hereinafter "Ge et al.") in view of Düser (previously applied).

Ge et al. discloses a method for wavelength division multiplexing (WDM) fiber delay line (FDL) optical buffer routing and scheduling of conflicted variable length data packets through an optical router. The method includes ordering of each conflicted variable length data packet and selecting each of the data packets in turn for routing based on the ordering sequence selection. The sequentially assigned conflicted data packet is assigned a wavelength in the FDL optical buffer from (n) available wavelengths, wherein $(n)=\lambda_1, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n, \lambda_1, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n, \dots$. Each data packet is converted